

# A spirited adventure through Bohemia and Alice's Looking Glass

## DVOŘÁK'S SERENADE

4–19 August 2023

Sydney, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Adelaide, Newcastle



*“I love the way some music suddenly takes you to the other side of Alice’s looking glass, in a kind of absurd, subtle, technicolor transition.”*

– NEW YORK COMPOSER CAROLINE SHAW ON HER WORK *ENTR’ACTE*.

Internationally acclaimed as an ‘orchestra of soloists’, the **Australian Chamber Orchestra** will embark on a spirited adventure to Bohemia to perform the visceral, virtuosic and utterly exhilarating music of **Antonín Dvořák** and **Béla Bartók** in a national tour directed by ACO Artistic Director **Richard Tognetti**.

Hungarian composer Béla Bartók is one of the most important composers of the 20th century and his String Quartet No.5, with its incredible spectrum of colours, rhythmic vitality and emotion, is one of the most challenging pieces of string music ever written. In a new arrangement for string orchestra by Tognetti, this electrifying music will push the breathtaking virtuosity of the ACO to its very limits.

The concert opens with Dvořák’s *Serenade for Strings*, music that conjures the lush forests of the Czech composer’s homeland. One of his most popular and beloved works, it reflects a joyful and highly productive period of Dvořák’s life and is filled with sunny optimism and rich melodic invention.

### Media Contact

For interview requests, images, media tickets or further information, please contact:

### Caitlin Benetatos

**E** [caitlin.benetatos@aco.com.au](mailto:caitlin.benetatos@aco.com.au)

**P** (02) 8274 3825

**M** 0422934693

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Bartók and Dvořák are in fine company with the magnetic music of New York musician **Caroline Shaw**, whose work *Entr'acte* also appears in the program. A Pulitzer Prize and Grammy award winner whose career spans working as a composer, producer, violinist and vocalist, Shaw has collaborated with musicians from Yo-Yo Ma, Renée Fleming and Dawn Upshaw to Rosalía, Woodkid and Nas while her music has appeared on the likes of *Bombshell*, *Yellowjackets*, and Beyoncé's *Homecoming*.

A piece that is striking, ebullient and captivating in its unpredictability, Shaw has said of the inspiration behind *Entr'acte*, "I love the way some music suddenly takes you to the other side of Alice's looking glass, in a kind of absurd, subtle, technicolor transition."

**Concert Details**

**DVOŘÁK'S SERENADE**

**ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK** Serenade for Strings in E major, Op.22

**CAROLINE SHAW** *Entr'acte*

**JOSEF SUK** Meditation on the Old Czech Hymn "St Wenceslas", Op.35a

**BÉLA BARTÓK** (arr. Richard Tognetti) String Quartet No.5

**Richard Tognetti** Director and Violin  
**Australian Chamber Orchestra**

**Sydney • City Recital Hall**

Fri 4 Aug, 1.30pm  
 Sat 5 Aug, 7pm  
 Tue 8 Aug, 8pm  
 Wed 9 Aug, 7pm

**Sydney Opera House**

Sun 6 Aug, 2pm

**Brisbane • QPAC Concert Hall**

Mon 7 Aug, 7pm

**Canberra • Llewellyn Hall**

Sat 12 Aug, 8pm

**Melbourne • Arts Centre Melbourne**

Sun 13 Aug, 2.30pm  
 Mon 14 Aug, 7.30pm

**Adelaide Town Hall**

Tue 15 Aug, 7.30pm

**Newcastle City Hall**

Sat 19 Aug, 7.30pm

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